

Remarks

The claims are 1-7. Claims 1-3 and 5-7 have been amended. No new matter is being introduced herein.

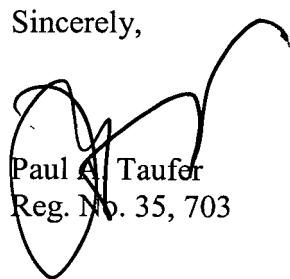
Claims 1-3 and 6-7 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112. For the convenience of the Examiner, the claims have been amended, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully solicited.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC § 101. While this rejection is respectfully traversed, in order to accommodate the Examiner, Claims 1-3 have been amended to recite a computer implemented method. For this reason, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully solicited.

Finally Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103 based on Armes. In response, the Applicants submit the enclosed Declaration under 37 CFR 1.131, to establish priority of invention over the Armes reference. The earliest possible priority date of the Armes reference is March 7, 2000. The enclosed § 131 Declaration sets forth that the claimed subject matter of the present application was invented prior to March 7, 2000. In view of which, Applicants respectfully submit withdrawal of the present rejection based on Armes.

In view of all that set forth above, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of the present application.

Sincerely,


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